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*Gypsum Deposits of the Maritime Provinces.* By WILLIAM F. JENNISON. Canada Department of Mines, No. 84, 1911. Pp. 170, figs. 19, pls. 36.

This report is largely taken up with general discussion of the world-distribution of gypsum, its origin, manufacturing processes, and the character of the manufactured products. Considerable space is given to descriptions of various local occurrences that may become of commercial importance.

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Magdalen Islands make up the Maritime Provinces. The gypsum deposits were thought at one time to belong to Permian age, but they are now known to be Mississippian. In Nova Scotia the deposits are not limited to any particular horizon, but are found near the base, in the middle of the system, and immediately underlying Pennsylvanian coal beds. They are in all cases associated with marine limestones and marls, and the author believes this fact is of great significance. The gypsum is found in beds ranging up to 100 feet thick and in many places is seen to grade into the limestone. The deposits in other provinces present no additional features of interest.

The author believes the gypsum comes from conversion of submarine limestones or marls by the action of free sulphuric acid of juvenile origin. In support of this theory he points out that numerous circular blowholes found in massive formations of the gypsum were vents for escaping gases developed by the action of sulphuric acid on the calcareous materials.

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W. B. W.

*Colorado Ferberite and the Wolframite Series.* By F. L. HESS and W. T. SCHALLER. U.S. Geol. Survey, Bull. 583. Pp. 75, pls. 14, figs. 35.

In 1910 the Colorado field, chiefly in Boulder County, furnished approximately one-sixth of the world's production of tungsten ore. In no other field is the iron tungstate the principal ore mineral.

In the first part of the report, Hess discusses the mode of occurrence of ferberite in this district, the mineral associations being given in considerable detail. He also submits 95 out of 300 analyses examined to obtain a basis for differentiation from the remainder of the wolframite group. He proposes the following definition of the group: At one end of the series shall be placed ferberite, ranging from pure  $\text{FeWO}_4$  to a composition bearing 20 per cent of the hubnerite molecule  $\text{MnWO}_4$ , and